

South Africa: SPRINT

Safer Places – Resilient Institutions and Neighborhoods Together

Background

With an urbanisation rate of over 67 per cent, the majority of South Africa's population lives in urban areas. The high levels of poverty, (youth) unemployment, violence and crime remain to be main development challenges of South African cities. According to UN-Habitat report on cities, South African cities being the most unequal worldwide. These challenges are compounded by the segregating legacies of apartheid spatial planning, pushing the vulnerable and poor residents to the underdeveloped outskirts of the cities often without access to basic infrastructure and equal social and economic opportunities. As a result, people living in those areas have been even more exposed to the negative socio-economic impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic, including exacerbated risk factors to violence and crime.

Project Intervention

Through a co-design process, this project aims to develop and introduce an informal Traders Hub within the Hulana park that connects the Galeshewe Township to the Kimberley town center. The planned activity is implemented as part of the ongoing project "SPRINT", which has been initiated since 2020 in response to the above-mentioned challenges during the pandemic. The Hub aims at contributing to a more livable, resilient, safe, and economically thriving Galeshewe, a fragile township located on the peripheries of the city. It will be developed with a special consideration of the gender-specific needs of the female traders and will provide infrastructure such as trader's shelters, electrical connection, water and sanitation facilities,



- 39.5 million** people live in urban areas
- 51** per cent or more of the urban population lives in the six largest cities: Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Ethekwini, Johannesburg, Ekurhuleni and Tshwane
- 2.3** million adequate and affordable housing units need to be built in South Africa
- 26** per cent of South Africa's population live in informal settlements
- 58** per cent of the youth in South Africa suffer from unemployment

storage facilities, urban furniture, and Wi-Fi hotspots on a non-motorized transport route. Innovative, gender-sensitive, and crime preventive design will be implemented to improve the safety and accessibility of public spaces. Furthermore, cooling mechanisms will be put in place to counter the urban heating effect by using less reflective surfaces and planting indigenous vegetation surrounding the hub.

Expected Results

Informal traders of Galeshewe benefit from the project in multiple ways. Their livelihoods are improved, and they have access to safe shelters. The implementation of sustainable local



Building Vibrant and Resilient Neighbourhoods



building technologies, such as clay blocks, contributes to a climate-friendly city and provides young people with additional skills to enhance their employability also beyond the Traders Hub. A community centre and food garden will further contribute to upgrading the area and sensitize around urban gardening, nutritious food while promoting multi-use public spaces. Through the implementation of the *Integrated Urban Development Framework* (IUDF) the project serves as an example at the local as well as the national level. Furthermore, the planned interventions support the implementation of the overall Urban Network Strategy (UNS), supported by National Treasury. The proposed activities contribute to achieve SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), SDG 5 (Gender Equity), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities). The specific focus on informal traders specially women and migrant workers contributes to the principle of Leave No One Behind (LNOB).

Implementation Partners

Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading (VPUU) as the main implementing body supports the project through its expertise in architecture, community facilitation, project management, and co-design processes with

the community. VPUU is an area-based community development programme, with successful projects in low-income areas in South Africa. This collaboration takes place as a part of VPUU's ongoing support of the municipality through the SPRINT initiative.

The **Sol Plaatje Local Municipality (SPM)** is both implementer and beneficiary of the project. This takes place through the support of the *Strategy Economic Development Unit*, the *Community and Social Development Unit* and the *Park and Recreation Unit*. Further municipal Stakeholders involved in the project include Safer City Committee, as well as various city departments e.g., Infrastructure, Education, Control Room, IT and Small, Medium and Micro-Enterprise. The **National Department of Cooperative Governance** will endorse the project.

Financing

The project implementation takes place from March 2022 to December 2022. BMZ provides EUR 100.000 through the GIZ sector project "Cities"; There will be an additional contribution of EUR 20.000 through the BMZ-funded GIZ "Inclusive Violence and Crime Prevention (VCP)" programme.

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